

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 1-6 and 15-20 are pending in this application.

**Request for Interview:**

Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the present Amendment/Response. The Examiner is thus respectfully requested to contact the undersigned after reviewing the present Amendment/Response. Attached is an Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form.

**Allowable Subject Matter:**

Claim 4 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, the Office Action indicated that this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Since claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form in the present Amendment/Response, claim 4 is allowable.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:**

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by Bradford et al (U.S. '401, hereinafter "Bradford"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Each element of the claimed invention is not found in Bradford. For example, Bradford fails to disclose "wherein the control means corrects, in a period when a deceleration control is performed on the rotor, a phase lead of the current

supply phase with respect to a rotation phase of the rotor in accordance with a rotation speed of the rotor,” as required by independent claim 1.

The invention of claim 1 relates to a control means which detects the rotation position of a rotor on the basis of a count of a pulse signal, thereby rotating the rotor to a target position. The control means corrects a phase lead of a current supply phase in accordance with the rotation speed of the rotor in a period when deceleration control is performed on the rotor. These features, are supported by, for example (but without limitation), page 49, line 8 to page 51, line 8 of the originally-filed specification which describes a phase lead correction amount  $K_s$  being set corresponding to high, middle and low speed ranges of rotation speed  $SP$  of rotor 32 with respect to the rotation phase of the rotor 32. As a result, a braking force acting on the rotor 32 is varied in accordance with the rotation speed of the rotor 32. This provides the benefit of rotor 32 being capable of stopping accurately at a target position without an external brake device.

Page 3, lines 1-2 of the Office Action apparently alleges that the abstract and col. 6, lines 16-67 of Bradford discloses the above described features. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this apparent allegation. In particular, neither the abstract nor col. 6, lines 16-67 (nor any other portion of Bradford) discloses correcting, in a period of deceleration control of a rotor, a phase lead of a current supply phase with respect to a rotation phase of the rotor in accordance with a rotation speed of the rotor. There is no teaching or suggestion of correcting a phase lead of a current supply in accordance with rotor rotation speed in Bradford. While Bradford discloses measuring a rotor velocity 28, this rotor velocity is merely used to determine deceleration (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 7-33 of Bradford). There is no teaching or suggestion of correcting a phase lead of a current supply in accordance with Bradford’s rotor velocity 28.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

**New Claims:**

New claims 15-20 have been added to provide additional protection for the invention. New independent claim 15 requires, *inter alia*, “wherein the controller corrects, in a period when a deceleration control is performed on the rotor, a phase lead of the current supply phase with respect to a rotation phase of the rotor in accordance with a rotation speed of the rotor to thereby control generation of a braking force acting electromagnetically on the rotor to decelerate the rotor.” As described, for example, in col. 3, line 51 to col. 4, line 26, Bradford discloses controlling hydraulic pressure to press a brake caliper unto a brake disk provided to a gear train to decelerate a rotor. Accordingly, the rotor in Bradford is externally decelerated using a mechanical brake. In contrast, claim 15 requires correcting a phase lead of a current supply phase in accordance with a rotation speed of the rotor to thereby control generation of braking force acting electromagnetically. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 15 and its dependents are allowable.

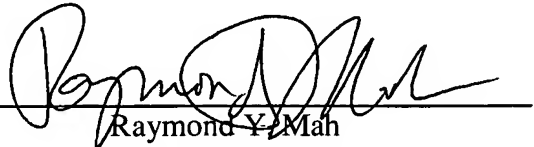
**Conclusion:**

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raymond Y. Mah', is written over a horizontal line.

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